
From: HJR153
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2004 2:43 PM
To: HJR153
Subject: HJR153 - Virginia Smith

Name: Virginia Smith
Street: 8 Calycanthus Road
City, State, Zip: Richmond, VA 23221
Phone Number:
Email:
Utility Type: electric
Company Name: Dominion VA Power
Comments: re HJR 153 -

When considering the costs of burying the power lines, please also consider the costs of maintaining the trees and trimming foliage over several decades, plus the cost of storm repairs such as the huge costs incurred during Hurricane Isabel repairs in September, 2003. The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported that Isabel repairs cost upwards of \$10 million per day for a month - surely burying lines would be less costly than this. It should be possible to fund and amortize the one-time cost of burying lines over a multi-year period, and to physically bury the lines in zones over a similar time frame. Additional costs savings could be realized by combining efforts with telephone and cable lines, burying all utilities at once. Water, sewer and gas line repairs and street repairs could also be accomplished simultaneously. Burying the lines would ultimately produce more reliable, more cost-effective service by eliminating huge annual maintenance costs and power outages due to storms, car crashes, and other non-controllable events.